

Food Insecurity in New Mexico

New Mexico has the **2nd highest** food insecurity rate among children



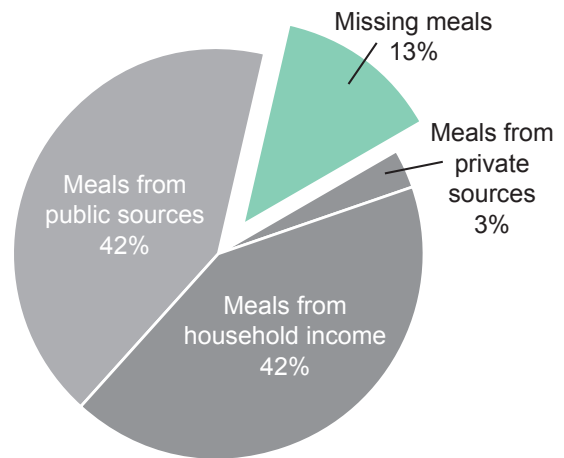
25% of our children don't have access to enough nutritious food

Low-income* New Mexicans miss, on average, **3 meals per week**

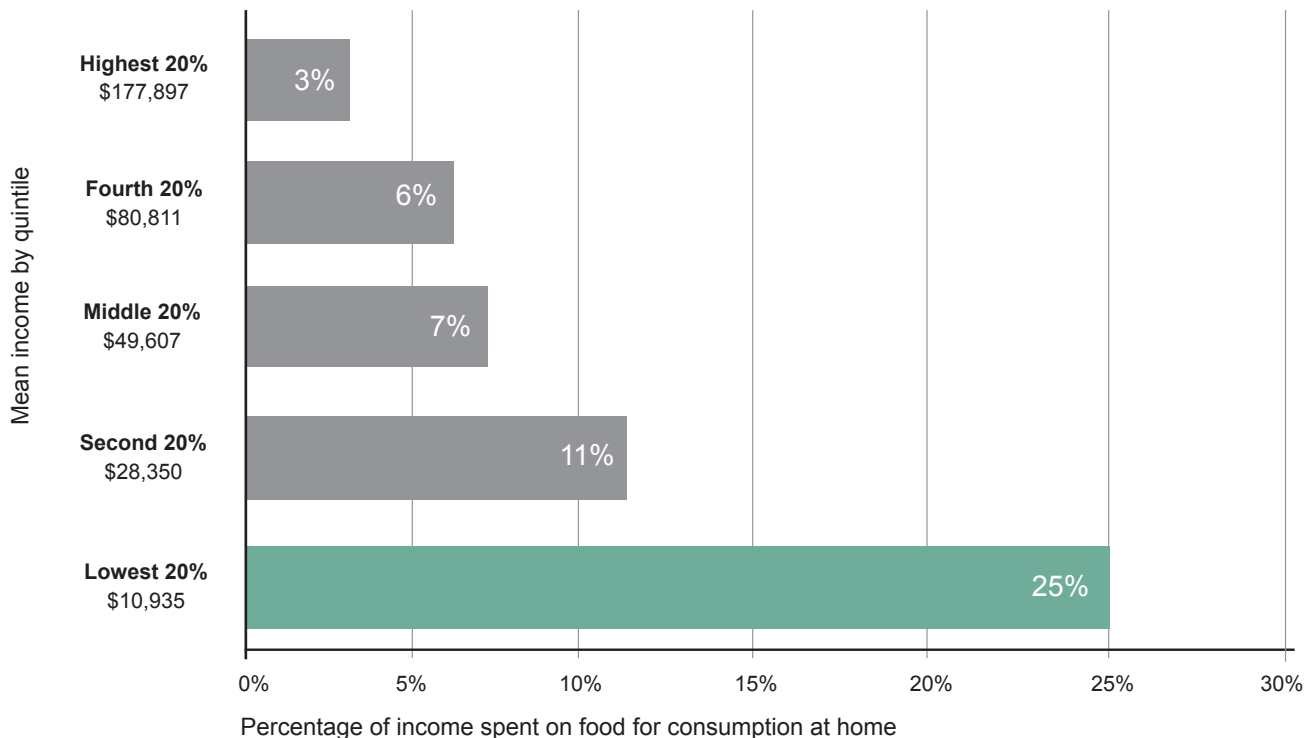


*Low income = \$31,244 for a family of 3 (185% of FPL)

Food-insecure New Mexicans miss **13% of their meals**

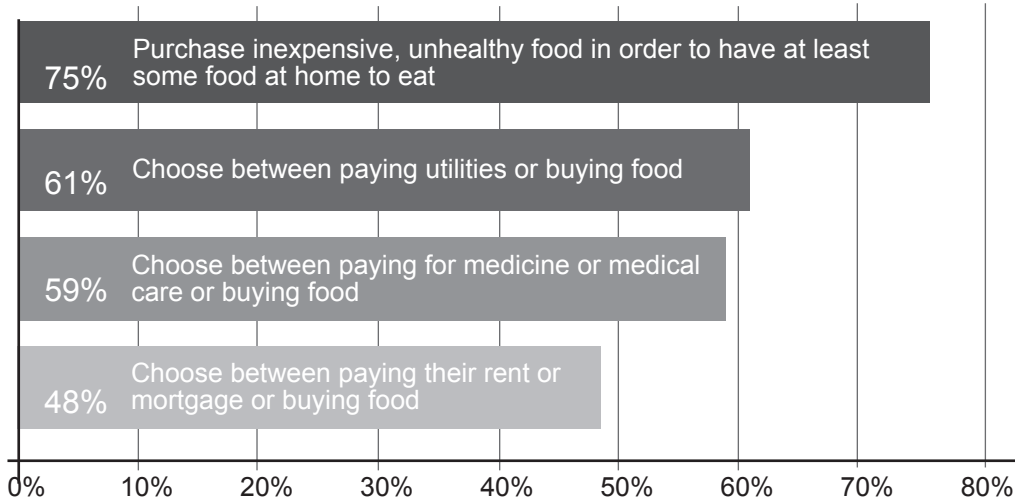


Those with the lowest incomes must spend the **largest share** of it on food



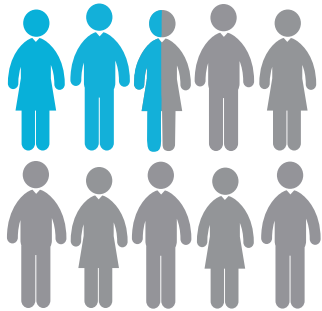
Sources: *Map the Meal Gap*, Feeding America, 2017 (child food insecurity); *Missing Meals in New Mexico*, NM Association of Food Banks, 2010 (missing meals); Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2013 (share spent on food by income level)

New Mexicans with low food security **must make tradeoffs** in order to get by



SNAP Usage in New Mexico

24% of New Mexican who are poor enough for SNAP **don't receive it**

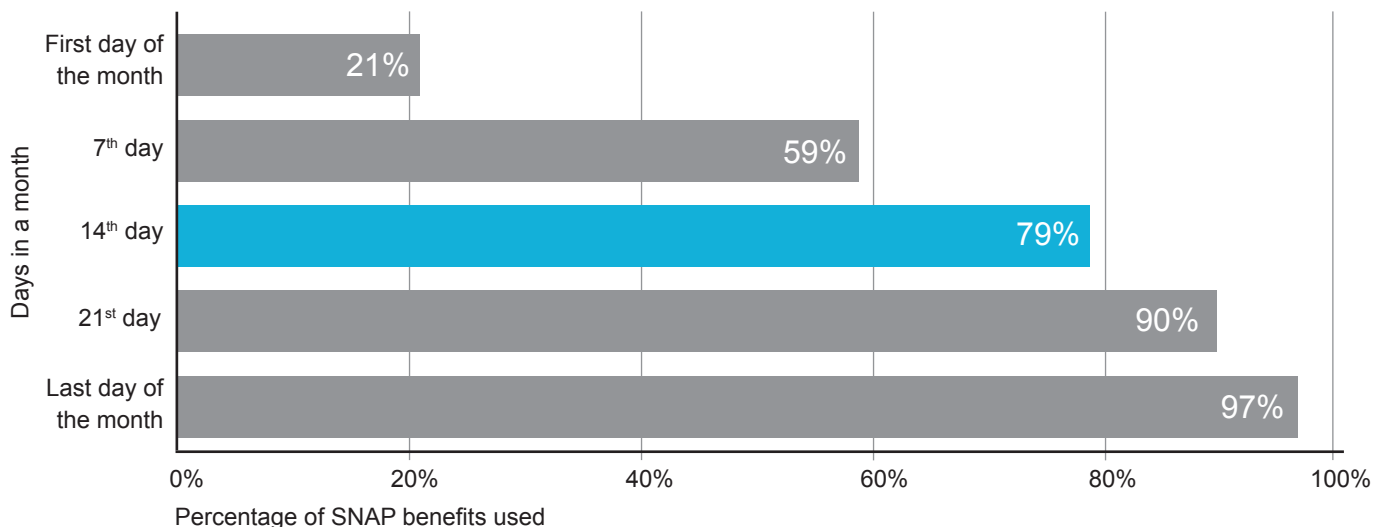


Very low-income New Mexicans spend at least **\$200 million**



a year on groceries **not using SNAP**

80% of SNAP benefits are used within the **first half of the month**

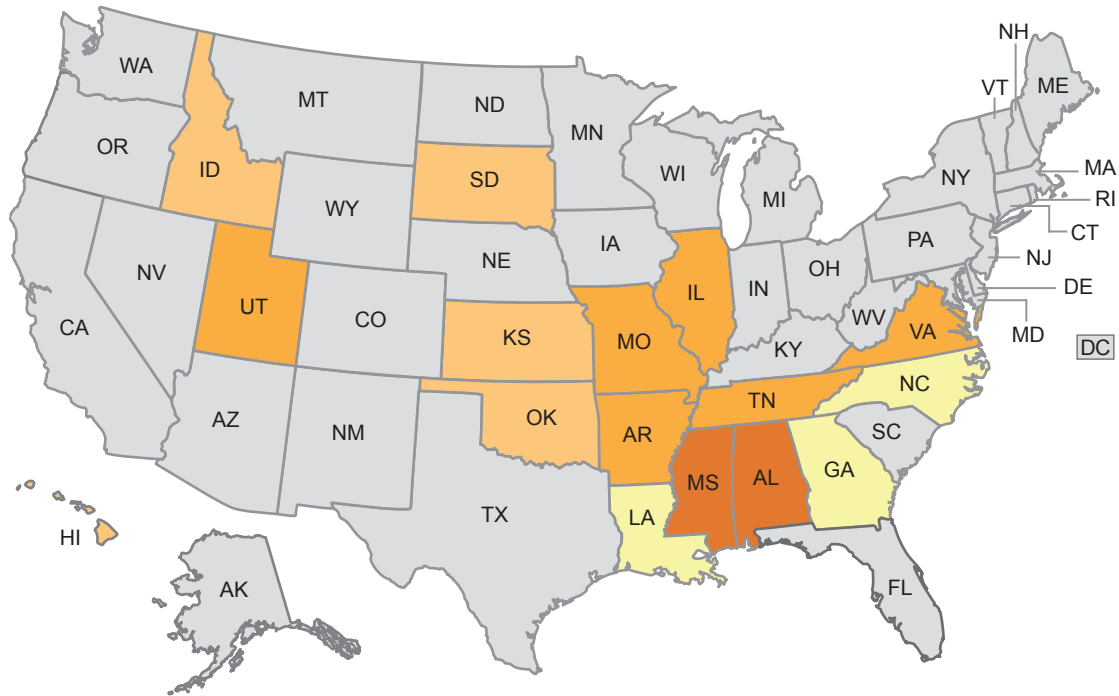


Sources: "Benefit Redemption Patterns in SNAP," USDA, 2011 (rate of SNAP usage); USDA Food and Nutrition Services Program Access Indicator rating, 2015 (percent not receiving SNAP); NM Voices for Children calculations using USDA Food and Nutrition Services Program Access Indicator rating and average benefits data, 2015 (amount spent); NM Association of Food Banks Survey, 2015; and *Map the Meal Gap*, Feeding America, 2014 (tradeoffs)

What Other States Do

Most states don't tax food

Of the **15** states that do, only **2** tax it at the regular rate



Key

- Food not taxed
- Food not taxed by the state but local governments may tax food
- Food taxed at the regular rate but tax credit provided to offset cost
- Food taxed at a lower rate
- Food taxed at the regular rate

New Mexico ranks **2nd** in the nation
for participation in federal school
meal programs



Can't we find a **better way** to raise revenue?